WE'VE FINALLY TAKEN OUR FIRST STEP AS THE NEW HEKIYOU ACADEMY STUDENT COUNCIL
TODAY WILL BE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PROVISIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL. WE'LL BE HAVING A TACTICAL MEETING ON THE "VICE PRESIDENT MINASE RUNA CAPTURE PLAN"
ALTHOUGH FOR NOW IT'S JUST THE PRESIDENT AND ONE VICE PRESIDENT
IS THAT OKAY, PRESIDENT SAIONJI?
YES, I NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR THIS AS WELL.
WELL THEN, KAZAMI-SAN, YOUR REPORT PREASE-
PLEASE.
キリッ
LET'S JUST IGNORE THE FACT THAT SHE BIT HER TONGUE
WE'VE GOTTEN USED TO THESE THINGS ALREADY, HAVEN'T WE?
BUT WE'VE FINALLY GOTTEN ONE FOOT IN THE DOOR.

MINASE RUNA, HEKIYOU ACADEMY THIRD YEAR AND THIS YEAR'S VALEDICTORIAN.
HER MOST NOTABLE TRAIT IS HER ACADEMIC PROWESS.
HAVING ACHIEVED FULL MARKS ON EVERY SUBJECT SINCE THE MIDTERM EXAMINATIONS IN THE SECOND SEMESTER OF HER FIRST YEAR, SHE'S KNOWN FOR THE STARTLING CONSISTENCY OF HER INSANE GRADES.
中間テスト結果
現国 英語 数学 社会 化学
100点 100点 100点 100点 100点
1位 1位 1位 1位 1位
順位 1位
水無瀬 流南
SHE NEVER MAKES A SINGLE MISTAKE ON ANY TEST.
IT'S NOT JUST THAT SHE'S SMART, BUT SOMETHING MUCH MORE...
THAT KIND OF ATTENTION TO DETAIL REQUIRES EFFORT AND DEDICATION TO AN EXTREME

Chapter 4
The Student Council That Won't Move Forward

COME TO THINK OF IT,
MINASE TOLD ME A LONG TIME AGO THAT SHE THINKS SHE'S NATURALLY NOT VERY INTELLIGENT
IT'S PROBABLY MOST APPROPRIATE TO CATEGORIZE HER AS BEING A GENIUS OF STUDYING INSTEAD.

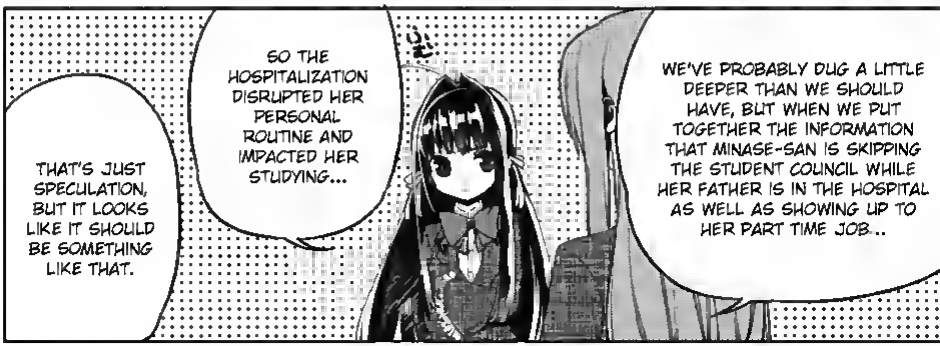
SHE WAS SOMEONE WHO SAW STUDYING AS A NATURAL COURSE OF ACTION FEELING NO JOY OR SORROW FROM IT, IT'S WHAT SHE WOULD DO ALL DAY LONG
うーん
IS THAT SO?

THEN WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE THAT
PURPOSEFULLY CUT DOWN ON THEIR STUDYING TIME BY JOINING THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
THAT WAS THE FIRST POINT OF SUSPICION.

"WAS" THE FIRST POINT OF SUSPICION? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS IS MERELY A HUNCH, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE I HAVE IT FIGURED OUT.
THE REASON THAT MINASE-SAN WOULD JOIN THE STUDENT COUNCIL IS...
YOU, SUGISAKI-SAN.
AHH, KEN-SAN, HUH?
ふえ
!!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHY?

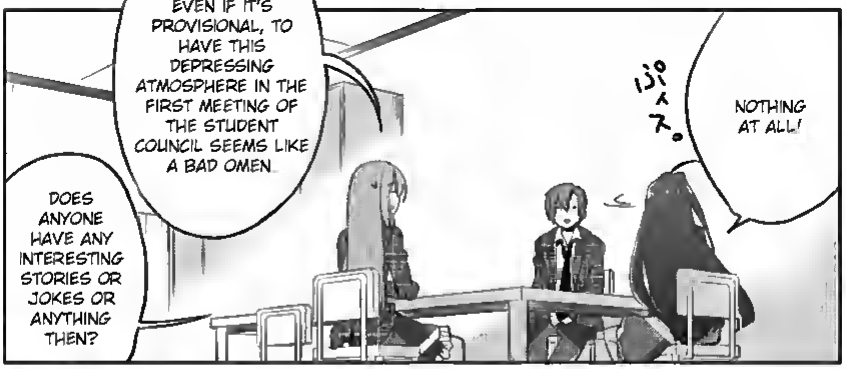
WAIT WAIT WAIT YOU GUYS, COME ON!
YEAH, SINCE IT'S SUGISAKI-SAN
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S KEN-SAN AFTER ALL.
Ahh……
I KNOW BECAUSE I'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH SUGISAKI-SAN FOR HALF A YEAR NOW..
へっ?
WELL, THAT'S FINE AND ALL,
BUT THE PROBLEM IS WHY SOMEONE WHO WILLINGLY JOINED THE STUDENT COUNCIL
WOULD SKIP AND NOT SHOW UP AT ALL.

AND THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT OF TODAY'S MEETING, AND WHAT THE JOURNALISM CLUB HAS INVESTIGATED.
IN THE LAST MONTH, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO BIG CHANGES IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MINASE-SAN.
HER FATHER'S HOSPITALIZATION
数学
実践模試
AND THE FREEFALL IN HER ACADEMIC RESULTS.


WE'VE PROBABLY DUG A LITTLE DEEPER THAN WE SHOULD HAVE, BUT WHEN WE PUT TOGETHER THE INFORMATION THAT MINASE-SAN IS SKIPPING THE STUDENT COUNCIL WHILE HER FATHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL AS WELL AS SHOWING UP TO HER PART TIME JOB...
SO THE HOSPITALIZATION DISRUPTED HER PERSONAL ROUTINE AND IMPACTED HER STUDYING...
THAT'S JUST SPECULATION, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT SHOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

UMM... THIS IS...
IT FEELS LIKE WE WOULD BE CROSSING A LINE IF WE GET INVOLVED ANYMORE...
Yeah.
This is heavy-
Sure is.
ペコ
I'M SORRY. PERSONALLY, I'D RATHER NOT PROBE FURTHER INTO ANYTHING CONCERNING MINASE-SAN.
ALTHOUGH IT WOULDN'T BE HARD TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER WITH THE PROWESS OF THE JOURNALISM CLUB...

I'M SORRY, SUGISAKI-SAN. I COULDN'T BE OF MUCH USE...
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK, KAZAMI.
OF COURSE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
TO ME YOU'RE THE GREATEST JOURNALISM CLUB PRESIDENT EVER!
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, HOW YOU CAN BE SO KIND AND RESPECT THE DIGNITY OF THE PEOPLE YOU'RE INVESTIGATING!
SUGISAKI-SAN...
...I NOW UNDERSTAND THE FACT THAT KEN-SAN ACTS LIKE KEN-SAN TOWARDS EVERYONE INDISCRIMINATELY.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
Cu


EVEN IF IT'S PROVISIONAL, TO HAVE THIS DEPRESSING ATMOSPHERE IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL SEEMS LIKE A BAD OMEN...
DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY INTERESTING STORIES OR JOKES OR ANYTHING THEN?
NOTHING AT ALL!

No, please don't...
I'VE ALWAYS ADORED IDOL RADIO TALK SHOWS WITH SMALL TALK AND JOKES, AND NOW YOU'RE GIVEN ME A CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE MY SKILL?
THEN, LET ME GIVE YOU A TASTE OF THE COMEDIC GENIUS I'VE STORED FOR SO LONG...
DID YOU SAY JOKES!?
HUH!?

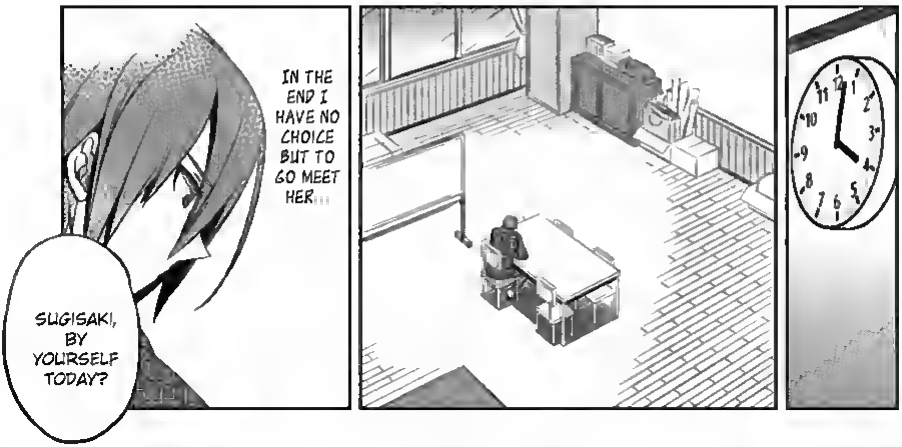
LIKE, YESTERDAY I WENT TO THE MALL WITH YOCCHI, YOU KNOW?
WHY IS SHE ACTUALLY TRYING TO ACT LIKE AN IDOL?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO? SHE'S TELLING SOME WEIRD STORY NOW...
HMM...
Do we let her continue?
Yes.
AND WE WERE GOING TO BUY A MIRROR FOR YOCCHI'S HOUSE.
BUT NO MATTER WHERE WE LOOKED WE COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING GOOD!
I have a bad feeling about this...
IT'S LIKE.
EVERYTHING WE FOUND WAS JUST SOOOO MEDIOCRE.
Yep
THAT'S WHEN I TURN TO YOCCHI AND SAY
IT'S A SHOPPING MALL.
SO OF COURSE THE PRODUCTS ARE LACK-LUSTER*.
AND IT GETS BETTER
ちら。
ドヤ？

T/N: IT'S AN INCREDIBLY LAME PUN WITH "SHOPPING MALL" AND PRODUCTS (SYOUHIN) BEING LACKLUSTER (KUMORU)

ヒュウウウウ
がくがくがくがく

THAT WAS DEFINITELY JUST YOU DIGGING YOUR OWN GRAVE!
I'M NEVER COMING BACK TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL EVER AGAIN!!

I SAID NO SUCH THING!
W-WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION!? I ONLY DID IT BECAUSE YOU SAID TO DO IT, KEN-SAN, AND NOW YOU REACT LIKE THIS!


SUGISAKI, BY YOURSELF TODAY?
IN THE END I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO MEET HER...

MAGIRU-SENSEI?
HEY, I WAS LOOKING FOR MINASE...
BUT YOU'LL DO.
SOMETHING WRONG?
LOOKS LIKE SHE DIDN'T HAND IN HER CAREER PLANS QUESTIONNAIRE SO I GOT STUCK WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HOUNDING HER FOR IT SINCE I'M THE STUDENT COUNCIL ADVISOR...
OH WELL IT CAN'T BE HELPED IF SHE'S NOT HERE.
IT'S NOT LIKE HER TO IGNORE IT...
OH YEAH,

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN YOU GRADUATE, SUGISAKI?
ME? I'LL JUST GO TO UNIVERSITY LIKE MOST OTHER PEOPLE.
REAL-LY?
THAT'S A BIT SURPRISING. YOU SEEM LIKE THE TYPE OF PERSON THAT WOULD WANT TO WORK RIGHT AWAY SO YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR WOMEN
THAT'S WHAT I WOULD'VE SAID IF YOU HAD ASKED ME BEFORE, THOUGH.
RIGHT NOW I'M THINKING A LITTLE MORE LONG TERM.
OOH...
BUT DIDN'T WE ALREADY HAVE A QUESTIONNAIRE BACK IN SECOND YEAR?

WELL, SINCE SHE'S NOT HERE I GUESS I'LL GO BACK TO THE STAFF LOUNGE.
IS THAT SO?
AH, AT THAT TIME MINASE ANSWERED THE SAME WAY YOU DID, WANTING TO GO TO UNIVERSITY.
NORMALLY MINASE WOULD JUST SAY SHE'S GOING TO CONTINUE HER EDUCATION AND BE DONE WITH IT, SO THE FACT THAT SHE HASN'T HANDED IN HER QUESTIONNAIRE...
WOW, YOU'RE LAZY-
I TRIED TO CONTACT HER SO I'LL COUNT THAT AS DOING DUE DILIGENCE AS THE ADVISOR
IS SHE ACTUALLY CONFUSED ABOUT HER FUTURE?

CHEAPEST IN THE BUSINESS
GAME
DVD
HM?
ドドドドドドドド
Senpai! Sugisaki-senpai!
はぁ
はぁ
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT! I JUST MADE YOU JOIN THE STUDENT COUNCIL, NOTHING ELSE! PEOPLE ARE GOING TO MISUNDERSTAND!
The good girl who comes whenever senpai needs her body, that's Kagami!
Senpai, it's Kagami!
ズドドド
Oh dear, did you hear that?
High schoolers these days.
It's disturbing Unbelievable!
WHISPER WHISPER WHISPER
ひそひそひそ

I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN WHOLESOME ALL-AGES VERSION HAREM GAMES!
Already pretty hard-core, aren't you?
YOU BUY THEM ALL THE TIME, DON'T YOU? THOSE OBSCENE RAPE GAMES!
I HAVE BUSINESS HERE! I'M NOT BUYING GAMES TODAY!
HERE TO BUY THE EROGE YOU COMFORT YOURSELF WITH NIGHT AFTER NIGHT.
SO, SUGISAKI-SENPAI, YOU'RE HERE FOR THAT, RIGHT?
SERIOUSLY!
...Seriously?
THEN SINCE SHE'S FREE, KAGAMI WILL ACCOMPANY YOU!
REALLY?
NO, WAIT, I'M HERE BECAUSE IT'S WHERE MINASE WORKS PART TIME AND I HAVE TO TALK TO HER.
OOF!
Senpai
Let us explain!
This technique is ineffective and may even cause disgust when used against females but its power is multiplied by ∞ when used against males a truly terrifying ability!
Secret Technique:
必殺
紳士誘導落とし
GENTLEMAN KILLER

And so...

Understood! When Senpai is talking Kagami will
No, you don't have to try to do anything...
Yay! Thank you so much! Kagami will try her best!
Behave yourself, okay?

NOO!!
KAGAMI WILL PROVIDE FIRE SUPPORT FROM BEHIND WITH RELENTLESS VERBAL ATTACKS AGAINST MINASE-SENPAI WHO BETRAYED SUGISAKI-SENPAI BY ABUSING THE HONOR STUDENT RULE!
YEAH. JUST BE QUIET AND LOOK AROUND THE STORE OR SOMETHING.

WELL WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE MAN WHO MADE "POINTLESSLY CHASING AROUND GIRLS WHO HATE HIM DAY AFTER DAY" HIS CAREER, SUGISAKI-KUN HIMSELF.
新作
20% OFF
THAT'S RUDE, MINASE...
DID YOU TAKE HER PARENTS HOSTAGE OR SOMETHING?
BUT THERE'S A GIRL FOLLOWING YOU AROUND TODAY, HOW UNUSUAL.
ビシッ!
GOT IT?
I'M STILL A CUSTOMER HERE, AM I NOT!?
AS LONG AS I BUY SOMETHING I HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST BETTER TREATMENT FROM THE EMPLOYEE!
That's amazing, senpai! You're only a high school student yet you're already so versed in being a scumbag who's a nuisance to service industry workers!
...SIGH

SO, WHAT SPECIFICALLY DID YOU WANT?
I WANT TO BE TREATED AS IF WE WERE A NEWLYWED COUPLE!
Oh! That's senpai for you, a natural problem customer!
I GUESS THAT'S FINE. I'VE NEVER BEEN HUNG UP ABOUT HOW I WELCOME CUSTOMERS.
ALRIGHT! THEN I'LL REDO MY ENTRANCE! YOU BETTER WELCOME ME WARMLY AS IF I WAS YOUR NEW HUSBAND!

SIGH. MORE WARMTH...
バタン
WHY IS THE MARRIAGE THIS MESSED UP ALREADY!? YOU HAVE OTHER THINGS YOU CAN SAY, RIGHT? SOMETHING WITH MORE WARMTH!
WHO WAS THAT WOMAN YOU WERE HOLDING ARMS WITH IN FRONT OF THE HOTEL TODAY?
TAKE 1

Nobody was mean to you today, were they? Didn't trip or fall on anything? That's right, did you have lots of fun with your friends? That's great, come over here and warm yourself up in the kotatsu ..
Welcome back, Ken-kun.
キィ...
バァチャーン
THAT'S A GRANDMOTHER'S WARMTH! WHY DID YOU GIVE IT SO MANY FAMILY VALUES!?
TAKE 2

UNDER-STOOD.
FOR EXAMPLE, I'M COMING BACK EXHAUSTED FROM A LONG DAY AT WORK AND YOU ASK ME "WOULD YOU LIKE A MEAL? OR A BATH? OR PERHAPS ME..."
THEN GIVE ME MORE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

PER
HAPS
WOULD YOU LIKE A MEAL? OR A BATH? OR ..
DEAR...
OHHH
I'M COMING BACK TO A BAR!?
For now, let's go drink some beer
WATAMI*?
TL/N: KEN EXPECTED HER TO SAY ME (WATASHI). WATAMI IS A CHAIN OF RESTAURANTS/BARS IN JAPAN
TL/N: DERIVED FROM LIT. "FOR THE TIME BEING, MEDIUM-SIZE DRAFT BEER".
WELCOME BACK TO YOUR NATURAL HABITAT.
Hello, how can I help you?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN NATURAL HABITAT!? WAIT, I WAS SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU THAT MAGIRU-SENSEI WAS LOOKING FOR YOU SINCE YOU DIDN'T HAND IN YOUR CAREER PLANS QUESTIONNAIRE!

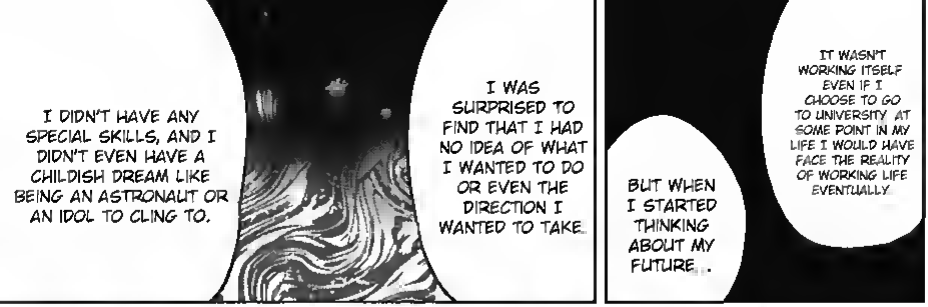
ARE YOU OKAY? THE STUFF ABOUT YOUR GRADES AND YOUR FATHER..
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE TO APOLOGIZE.
UM... SORRY...
...EVIDENTLY YOU'RE ALREADY QUITE AWARE OF MY SITUATION, SUGISAKI-KUN
Mos-quito !?
JUST LIKE HOW NO ONE WOULD BE BOTHERED BY A MOSQUITO SEEING THEM NAKED, IT'S THE SAME FEELING WITH YOU.
IT MAKES ME HAPPY TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT-
I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT MY FAMILY'S PROBLEMS, BUT IT'S NOT A HUGE BOTHER NOW THAT SOMEONE KNOWS,
ESPECIALLY SINCE IT'S YOU

JUST THE TWO OF US.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A TALK WITH SUGISAKI-KUN THE INSIGNIFICANT BUG?
SERIOUSLY... EVER SINCE FIRST YEAR YOU'VE BEEN...
THERE'S REALLY NOT MUCH TO TALK ABOUT.
AS YOU KNOW, MY FATHER'S BEEN HOSPITALIZED, SO OUR SOURCE OF INCOME HAS BECOME UNSTABLE. I WAS THINKING OF CHANGING MY FUTURE PLANS TO IMMEDIATELY ENTER THE WORKFORCE UPON GRADUATION INSTEAD...
THAT'S ALL.

I HATE THAT STUPID PERCEPTIVE-NESS OF YOURS.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED YOUR CAREER PLANS QUESTIONNAIRE?
IS THAT REALLY IT?
Why do you show no concern over eviscerating my feelings?
I WOULD WANT TO DIE.
IF I WERE BEING PITIED BY A LOWER BEING LIKE SUGISAKI-KUN THEN I MIGHT REALLY CRY.
I SHOULD MENTION FIRST OF ALL, NO MATTER WHAT I SAY AFTERWARDS, DON'T GIVE ME YOUR DISGUSTING PITY.
SO I HAD ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT ONE SHOULD DEAL WITH THEIR OWN PROBLEMS BY THEMSELVES.
I WAS RAISED BY MY SINGLE FATHER,
入園式
YOU MAY KNOW THIS ALREADY, SUGISAKI-KUN.
She ignored me and moved on!

MORE SPECIFICALLY, WHETHER IT'S STUDYING OR WORKING PART TIME, I'VE FOLLOWED THAT PHILOSOPHY, AND THEY'VE BECOME SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO ME.
THERE WASN'T ANY REAL REASON FOR IT, IT'S JUST SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED NATURALLY.
IT'S NOT A STRETCH TO SAY THAT THEY'RE ALL I HAVE IN LIFE.
THAT DOES SOUND LIKE YOU.
THAT WAS HOW I THOUGHT.
THAT PLAN HAS RECENTLY BEEN SHATTERED.
BUT-
MY PLANS WERE TO GET INTO A GOOD UNIVERSITY THEN STUDY TO GET A GOOD PAYING JOB, THAT WAS IT.
WHEN I WAS IN SECOND YEAR,
BY YOUR FATHER'S HOSPITALIZATION?
ニヘー

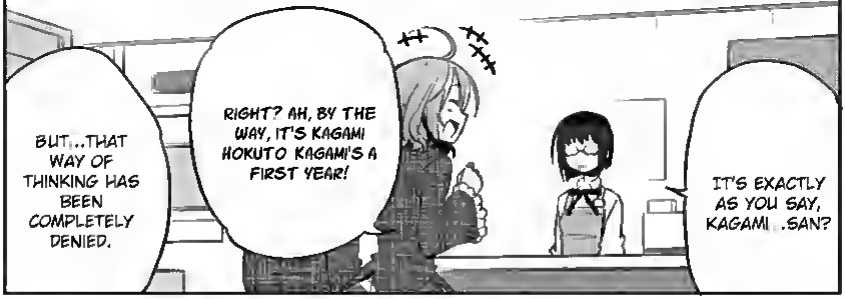
IT WAS A SERIOUS INJURY.
LUCKILY THERE LIKELY WON'T BE ANY PERMANENT DAMAGE, BUT THERE'S A LONG PERIOD OF TIME THAT MY FATHER CANNOT RETURN TO WORK. THAT, COMBINED WITH THE HOSPITAL FEES AND SURGERY FEES, HAVE DONE A NUMBER ON OUR HOUSEHOLD FINANCES.
HOWEVER, WE'VE SAVED FOR UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THIS, SO IT'S NOT AS IF THE POSSIBILITY OF GOING TO UNIVERSITY IS GONE FOR SURE, BUT IF SO, WE WOULD CERTAINLY BE ON HARD TIMES.
SINCE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY HUGE DESIRE TO ADVANCE MY STUDIES, I NATURALLY MADE THE DECISION TO WORK AFTER GRADUATION INSTEAD.
IT WAS IN THAT INSTANT THAT I NOTICED SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF.
I'M COMPLETELY HOLLOW.
HOLLOW?

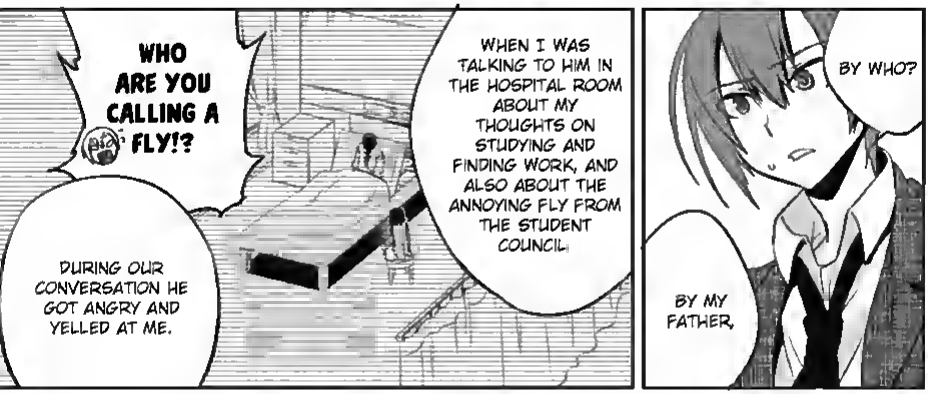

I DIDN'T HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS, AND I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A CHILDISH DREAM LIKE BEING AN ASTRONAUT OR AN IDOL TO CLING TO.
I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT I HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT I WANTED TO DO OR EVEN THE DIRECTION I WANTED TO TAKE.
BUT WHEN I STARTED THINKING ABOUT MY FUTURE...
IT WASN'T WORKING ITSELF EVEN IF I CHOOSE TO GO TO UNIVERSITY AT SOME POINT IN MY LIFE I WOULD HAVE FACE THE REALITY OF WORKING LIFE EVENTUALLY.

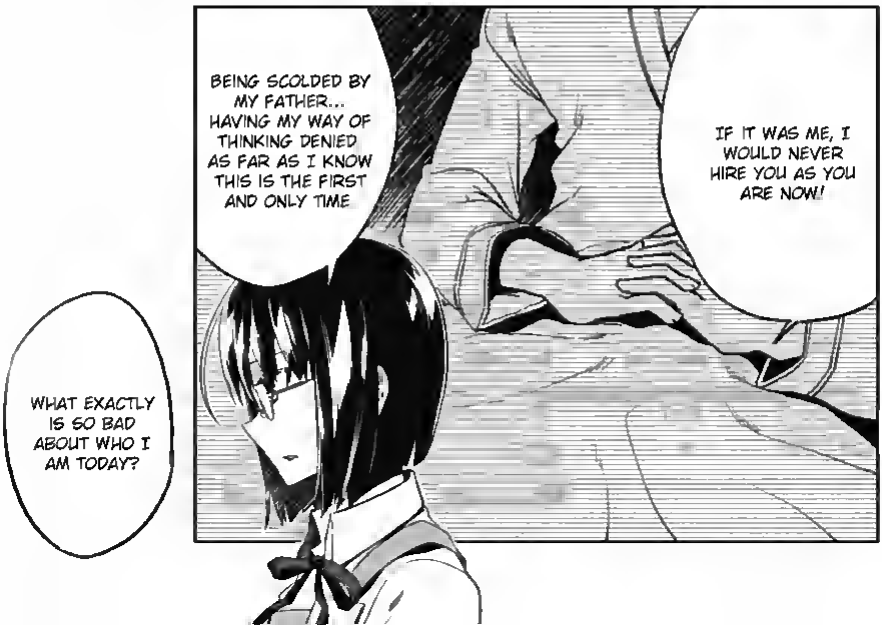
HAVING NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT WHERE THAT PATH MIGHT LEAD.
THAT TINY LIGHT COULD ONLY ILLUMINATE WHAT WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME. AND REASSURED THAT THERE WAS A PATH BENEATH MY FEET, I KEPT FOLLOWING THE PATH IT HAD LIT
IT'S LIKE... WALKING AT NIGHT WITH JUST A FLASHLIGHT.

SFX: SHAKE
PATH: STUDYING//PART-TIME JOB
DID I JUST HEAR THE SOUND OF YOU PITYING ME?
IS THAT SO?
MINASE...
PERHAPS I'M MUCH MORE LIKE AN INSIGNIFICANT BUG THAN YOU ARE, SUGISAKI-KUN

IF WE USE THE EXAMPLE FROM BEFORE, IT'S LIKE I STOPPED USING THE FLASHLIGHT TO SEE THE ROAD BELOW MY FEET.
ACTUALLY, IT DIDN'T REALLY BOTHER ME BEFORE.
BUT NOW THAT I'M IN THIS SITUATION AND HAVING TO THINK ABOUT AND FACE MYSELF, IT'S BOTHERING ME SO MUCH THAT IT'S INFLUENCING MY STUDYING.
MINASE...YOU...
THAT'S WHY YOU HAVEN'T COME TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL...
WITHOUT FINDING ANYTHING IN THE DARKNESS. OF COURSE MY GRADES DROPPED. AND BEING HOLLOW INSIDE I COULDN'T WRITE ANYTHING DOWN ON THE CAREER PLANS QUESTIONNAIRE.
THE FUTURE THAT I HAD IGNORED UNTIL NOW, I SEARCHED FOR IT FRANTICALLY WAVING THE FLASHLIGHT TRYING TO SEE AHEAD. OF COURSE I FOUND NOTHING.
HEY, KAGAMI...
Right? It's okay, right?
IF YOU HAVE NOTHING YOU WANT TO DO, FOR NOW BEING A PUBLIC SERVANT WOULD BE FAIRLY STABLE
I WAS SO WORRIED FOR YOU, YOU INSOLENT LITTLE
NO, I HAVEN'T BEEN GOING BECAUSE THE STUDENT COUNCIL IS A PAIN IN THE ASS.


IT'S EXACTLY AS YOU SAY, KAGAMI .SAN?
RIGHT? AH, BY THE WAY, IT'S KAGAMI HOKUTO KAGAMI'S A FIRST YEAR!
BUT...THAT WAY OF THINKING HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DENIED.


BY WHO?
BY MY FATHER.
WHEN I WAS TALKING TO HIM IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM ABOUT MY THOUGHTS ON STUDYING AND FINDING WORK, AND ALSO ABOUT THE ANNOYING FLY FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL.
WHO ARE YOU CALLING A FLY!?
DURING OUR CONVERSATION HE GOT ANGRY AND YELLED AT ME.


IF IT WAS ME, I WOULD NEVER HIRE YOU AS YOU ARE NOW!
BEING SCOLDED BY MY FATHER... HAVING MY WAY OF THINKING DENIED AS FAR AS I KNOW THIS IS THE FIRST AND ONLY TIME
WHAT EXACTLY IS SO BAD ABOUT WHO I AM TODAY?

HMM, KAGAMI DOESN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND.
IF I WERE TO RUN AWAY FROM REALITY IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE PAINFUL MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE FOR ME.
IT'S NOT LIKE EVERYONE HAS THE SAME EXPERIENCE WITH FUN THINGS LIKE THAT.
Hey you.
SINCE YOU'RE FREE ANYWAYS I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE SOME FUN WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.
FOR NOW, WHY NOT COME TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
AHH...
AH, SUGISAKI-SENPAI! DON'T YOU HAVE TO GO TO WORK TODAY?
IT MIGHT BE THE RIGHT DECISION NOT TO GO.
WELL, IT MIGHT BE TRUE THAT THE HAPPY ATMOSPHERE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL MIGHT BE HARSH ON MINASE-SAN RIGHT NOW.
WHAT IS THIS LONELINESS I FEEL...?
THERE WERE NO PIERCING INSULTS FLYING MY WAY.
...YES. TAKE CARE.
I'LL SEE YOU AT SCHOOL THEN, MINASE.

HUH!? I THOUGHT I SAW THE MARKERS OVER HERE...
COME AT ME YOU STINKING ZOMBIES!!
AHHHHHHHH!!
YOU DIED
GAME OVER
WHY DO YOU GET KILLED IMMEDIATELY EVERY TIME WE SPLIT UP, SENPAI?

SAY THAT AFTER YOU CAN STOP RELYING ON THE GIRL TO CARRY YOU!
TAKING THINGS HEAD ON IN AN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCE IS THE MANLY THING TO DO
Heheh Sorry-
Ex-student council treasurer Shiina Mafuyu
I'VE BEEN PLAYING GAMES ONLINE WITH MAFUYU BEFORE I GO TO BED FOR ABOUT A MONTH NOW.
Aha... Haha ha...
SORRY, SORRY, I'M MORE OF A GALGE AND RPG PLAYER AT HEART...
IT S SUPPOSED TO BE CO-OP MODE BUT IT BECAME MORE LIKE AN ESCORT MISSION WITH MAFUYU TRYING TO PROTECT SENPAI FROM BEING KILLED!
B-BUT WE'VE MADE IT THIS FAR, RIGHT?
Quest failed
IF THIS WAS A DIFFERENT GAME YOU WOULD'VE ALREADY USED UP ALL THE REVIVAL ITEMS! YOU'RE BAD BEYOND HUMAN COMPREHENSION!

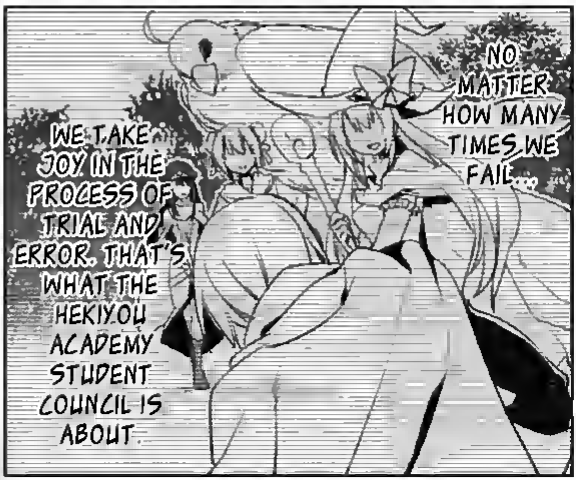
IF THERE'S SKILL POINTS, MAFUYU PUTS THEM ALL INTO OFFENSE!
YOU REALLY ARE MINATSU'S SISTER...
MAFUYU-CHAN, YOU'RE REALLY AGGRESSIVE IN GAMES...
THAT'S ONLY IF SENPAI DOESN'T WANDER AROUND AIMLESSLY! IF YOU'RE GOING TO WANDER INTO MAFUYU'S LINE OF FIRE THEN IT'S BETTER IF YOU'RE DEAD!
SERIOUSLY, WE DIDN'T PROGRESS AT ALL TODAY.
HAHA
I SINCERELY APOLOGIZE!

BUT WE WERE ABLE TO HAVE FUN PLAYING TOGETHER AGAIN, SENPAI.
SO WE DID.
THIS PEACEFUL EVERYDAY LIFE
GOOD NIGHT!
GOOD NIGHT THEN!

I WONDER IF THIS IS JUST THE SAME TYPE OF ESCAPISM AS WHAT SHE'S REFERRING TO...
FOR ME, IF I WERE TO RUN AWAY FROM REALITY IN THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM IT WOULD PROBABLY BE PAINFUL MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE
THAT TIME SPENT IN THAT WARM ATMOSPHERE IS JUST ESCAPISM?
IS THAT REALLY TRUE?
NO MATTER WHAT MINASE SAYS AND NO MATTER HOW MUCH I THINK ABOUT IT...
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS-
THAT'S NOT IT...THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT IT...

HAPPINESS DOESN'T COME FROM JUST SITTING AROUND!
...THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP BRUTE FORCING IT.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MAFUYU-CHAN, PREZ?


NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE FAIL...
WE TAKE JOY IN THE PROCESS OF TRIAL AND ERROR. THAT'S WHAT THE HEKIYOU ACADEMY STUDENT COUNCIL IS ABOUT.

ガサゴソ
ガサゴソ
HUH? WHERE DID I PUT IT?
ひょこ。
KEN-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AH, I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING RIGHT NOW.
WOULD WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HAPPEN TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH MINASE-SAN?
YEAH, WE CAN USE IT TO GET HER TO COME TO MEETINGS.
I SEE... THAT'S HOW IT IS...
KEN-SAN IS THAT TYPE OF PERSON AFTER ALL...

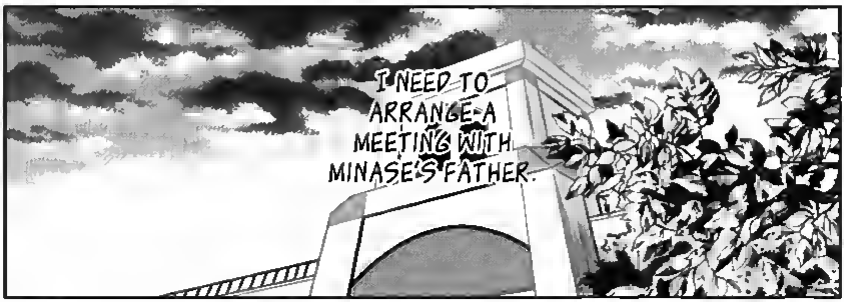
ふんは ふんは…
SO, WHAT ARE WE FINDING…?
UM…
キリッ
THEN, AS A MEMBER OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL, LET ME LEND A HAND!
I SWEAR ON THE SAIONJI FAMILY'S HONOR THAT I'LL FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

LISTENING-!?
ガガーン
I'M LOOKING FOR A
LISTENING DEVICE.

LEFT CRUSHED WALL: THE SINCERE KEN-SAN
RIGHT CRUSHED WALL: THE PASSIONATE KEN-SAN
BLACK MAIL
IT WORKED GREAT LAST YEAR WITH THE BLACKMAILING.
Against "The Corporation"
ガラガラ
ガラガラ
Don't tell me you plan to use that on Minase-san...
YEAH, I PLAN TO OPEN HER EYES WITH THE LISTENING DEVICE!
HM? WHAT'S WRONG, SAIONJI?
I-I-I-I...
ぶるぶるぶるぶる

H-HEY!
I'VE MIS-JUD-GED YOU!!

WELL WHATEVER... FOR NOW..
WHAT IN THE WORLD...?
Give me back my pure first love!!


I NEED TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH MINASE'S FATHER.

/A/NONYMOUS

Shin Seitokai no Ichizon

Chapter 4

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